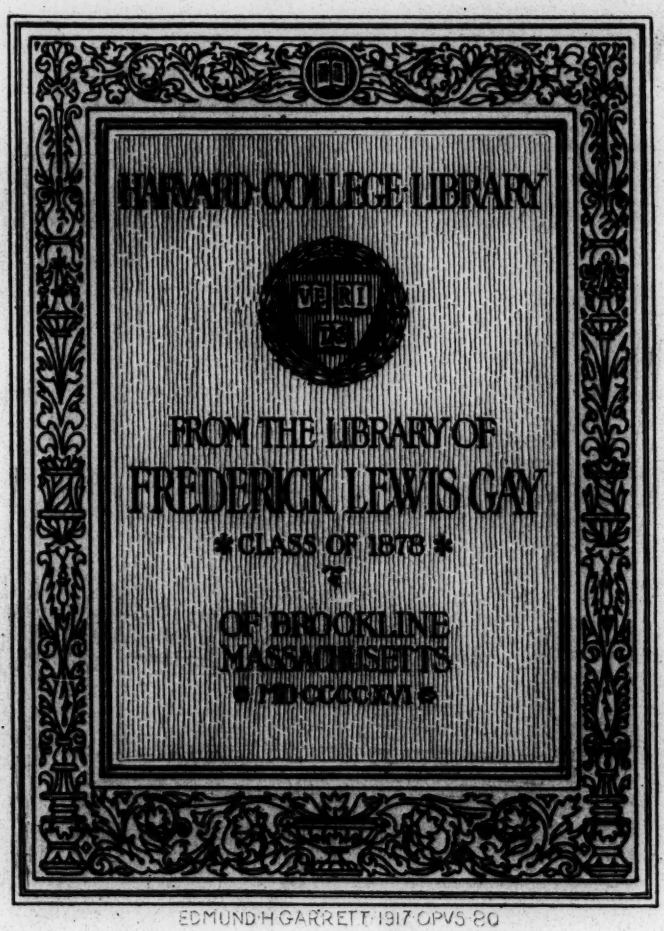

EDMUND H GARRETT 1917 OPUS 20

Sir ARTHVR

HASLERIGG HIS SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT.

WHEREBY,

Hee cleareth himſelfe of the *Articles* of High *Treaſon*, exhibited againſt *Himſelfe*, the Lord KIMBOLTON, Mr. IOHN PYMM, Mr. HAMPDEN, Mr. STROVD, and Mr. HOLLIS: By his *Majeſtie* on *Tueſday* the 4th. of *January*. 1642.

London, Printed for *F. Coules* and *T. B.* MDCXLII.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
FROM THE LIBRARY
OF F. L. GAY
JUNE 1, 1916

Sir ARTHVR HASLERIGG HIS SPEECH IN PARLIAMENT.

Mr. SPEAKER;

THis misfortune of mine ſeems to me at the firſt exceeding ſtrange, not onely in reſpect of the Crimes laid to my Charge, but moſt of all having thereby incurred not only the diſtavour but irefull diſpleaſure of his ſacred *Majeſtie*. For the firſt, knowing the innocency and integrity of my heart, that it is free from any ſuch *Crime* either in thought word or deed, againſt either my gratious *Soveraigne* or my native *Country*, I ſhall the more eaſily beare the burthen of the Charge; but to groane under the burthen of a moſt Pious and Wiſe *Prince* his diſpleaſure, wounds me ſore.

Mr. SPEAKER; I humbly deſire ſo much favour of this Honourable *Houſe* of which I have had the happineſs to be a Member, to ſpeake ſomething of my Innocency in all theſe Crimes I am charged withall.

This Honourable Houſe (*Mr.* SPEAKER) can I hope witnes for me, the manner of my carriage and diſpoſition

in any debate or Arguments wherein I have beene one. I hope nothing hath proceeded from me; that can come any wayes within the compaſſe of Treaſon.

In all Diſputes and Concluſions of any matter by Vote of the Houſe my Vote hath commonly agreed with the Major part then I hope my Vote in *Parliament* being free cannot be Treaſon.

Mr. SPEAKER; The Articles that are exhibited againſt me and the other Gentlemen, are of moſt dangerous and pernitious conſequence, if wee ſhould be found guilty of them, which GOD defend, I would to *God* theſe perſons that incenſed his *Maieſtie* againſt us, (which is eaſily conceived who they are) were as free from *thoughts*, *words* nay *actions* within the limits of Treaſon) as I hope we ſhall prove our ſelves, by Gods bleſſing.

Mr. SPEAKER; It is alleadged, we have indeavoured to ſubvert the Fundamentall Lawes of this Land, abridge the KINGS power, and deny his Royall *Prorogatives*. Give me leave, I beſeech you, to ſpeake concerning this Article. There is (as I conceive) not two Formes of Goverment in this Kingdome: there is not two ſorts of Fundamentall Lawes: there is but one forme of Goverment; One ſort of Fundamentall Lawes, that is, the Common Lawes of this Land, and Acts Statutes and Ordinances of PARLIAMENT, theſe two Mr. SPEAKER, depend and hang one upon another, ſo that they cannot be ſeperated; and hee that ſubverts the one, breaks and infringes the Priviledges of the other; and he that breaks the Priviledges of the one, ſubverts the other. Now vnder favour *Mr.* SPEAKER, to ſpeake freely in *Parliament* (freely called and aſſembled by his *Maieſties* moſt *Royall* Authority) to Vote freely in the ſame, upon the concluſion of any Bill to

be

be made a Law by the whole Conſent of PARLIAMENT aſſented to by his *Majeſtie*: to agree in Voting with the whole PARLIAMENT againſt Delinquents and Malefactors in the State, to bring them to condigne puniſhment for the ſame: to give my Vote in the *Houſe* for removing evill Councellors from his Sacred *Majeſtie*, to place loyall and faithfull ones in their Place: To aſſent with the whole State aſſembled together in Councell for the ſetling of peace and tranquillity in the ſame: To ordaine and enact ſuch wholſome Lawes and Ordinances whereby his *Majeſties* good Subjects may be governed in righteouſneſſe and good obedience: To Vote with the *Houſe* for redreſſing the many grievances of the *Commonwealth*. If theſe be to ſubvert the Fundamentall Lawes of the Land, then Mr. *Speaker* am I guilty of this Article in giving my Vote againſt the Earle of *Strafford*; in Voting thoſe Acts already made and paſſed by his *Majeſtie*; in Voting againſt the *Biſhops*; in Proteſting to maintain the Fundamentall Lawes of the Land, the true *Proteſtant* Religion, according to the true Doctrine of the Church of *England*: I ſay then Mr. *Speaker* in this am I guilty of high Treaſon: but if this be not to ſubvert the Lawes of the Land; then (as I conceive) am I cleare from being guilty of this *Article*. Which I humbly leave to the conſideration of this Honourable *Houſe*.

Under favour (*Mr.* SPEAKER) I come now to the other Articles of the Charge: I will onely recite the ſubſtance of them; for they all harpe on one thing: To indeavour to bring in an Arbitrary and tyrannicall Forme of Goverment: To invite Tumults, and unlawfull re brts of multitudes of People to the *Parliament* to be a colour for our Deſignes: To raiſe Forces and Armies in this

Land to assist me in my practises: To invite forreign Princes to bring an Army into the Land: To indeavour by Declarations, Proclamations, and otherwise to alienate the hearts of his Majesties loyall Subjects from their lawfull Soveraigne therby to avert their due obedience from him, and having an evill opinion of his sacred Majesty, to side with us, and take our parts to effect our Designes.

Give me leave I beseech you to speak concerning these Crimes: And first Mr. *Speaker* to indeavour to bring in an Arbitrary power and tyrannicall Forme of Goverment in the Subject, is to deny *Parliamentary proceedings*: To oppose the Laws enacted by *Parliaments*: To incense his Majestie against *Parliaments*; To protest and Petition against the proceedings thereof, is to bring in an Arbitrary forme of Goverment. But to agree with the *Parliament* being a Member therof by Vote to make and enact Laws; I conceive this cannot bee termed Arbitrary; neither I perswade my selfe can the effects thereof be tyrannicall.

Secondly, concerning the late Tumults about the *House*, I am innocent thereof; neither came they by my invitation or incouragement: I alwayes thought their resorts in that sort were illegall and riotous: I have Voted with this *House* for their suppressing; have assented to all Orders for their appeasing; agreed with the *Parliament* in all things concerning their Petitions and Requests: Then I hope this Honourable *House* will not conceive me guilty of this Crime: if it bee one, and granted; yet I conceive far without the limits of Treason for these reasons.

1. They came not with Armes to force any thing to be done in *Parliament*; but humbly by Petition shewed their grievances, and desired redresse therof which is one Priviledge (and one of the greatest) to make their griefes knowne

knowne to a *Parliament*, and by them to be relieved.

2 They offered no Aſſault; but (being aſſaulted) preſerved themſelves and departed.

3 The matter of their clamor was not againſt the King nor any of his Councell: It was not againſt the Lords, nor *Houſe* of *Commons*: It was only againſt Delinquents, againſt ſuch as had been the greateſt oppreſſors of them.

Thirdly, I come in a word to the other Articles of the Charge which I intend to ſpeake of (under favour) altogether: I pray you who raiſed any Army actually in this Land but the trained Bands, which was done by the *Parliament* for the ſecurity of their own Perſons in the *Kings* abſence; and in obedience to his commands at his return home they were diſcharged, and afterwards againe raiſed by his Majeſties owne Royall Authority. And for inviting or procuring any forreigne Princes to ayd mee with an Army, I am altogether innocent therein; I know of no ayd required but from *Scotland*, which is done by the *Parliament*, my Vote as a Member thereof onely agreeing with them in the ſame: And that ayd is procured for his Majeſties aſſiſtance in ſubduing the Rebellion in *Ireland*, and (as I conceive) for no other purpoſe. And for the laſt Article wherewith I am charged, I hope to be cleered by this whole *Houſe* for what Declamations or Proclamations have beene publiſhed but by Authority of the *Parliament*, joyn'd with his Majeſties moſt Royall Power and aſſent therunto. It is manifeſt to all People that nothing is publiſhed by the *Parliament*; or any of the Members thereof but tendeth to the winning of the hearts of his Majeſtiees Subjects to dutifull obedience and intii love and tender affection towards their gracious Soveraigne. And I dare confidently ſay, that there is none of his Ma-

jeſties

jesties Subjects that are true Protestants, and well affected to Religion; but upon the least command of his Majesties, will spend their deareſt blood in defence of his Sacred Perſon, his Queen and Princely Iſſue, of the Laws and Conſtitutions of this Kingdome, of *Parliaments* and the Rights and Priviledges thereof; of Religion and the Doctrine of the Church of *England*. And therfore I conceive I am far from intending any Treaſon either againſt his Majeſtie or Kingdome. And thus craving pardon for my preſumption and humbly thanking this Honourable *Houſe* for their patience, beſeeching them to have a good opinion of mee and my Actions, that I may receive ſuch Tryall as to their wiſedomes ſhall ſeeme meet, with my hearty Prayers for the happy continuance of this *Parliament*; to effect and finiſh ſuch great matters both in *Church* and State, as may advance Gods glory, ſettle all things in a right frame for the good Goverment of this Kingdome, and the everlaſting peace and tranquillity of his Majeſty and all his Kingdomes.

FINIS.

*EC65.H2744.642sb

THE HOUGHTON LIBRARY

1 June 1916